

REMARKS

I. Claim Status

After entry of this amendment, claims 11-14 and 17-19 will be pending. The Office has withdrawn claims 14-16 from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Dec. 11, 2009, Final Office Action at 2. Applicants have cancelled herein withdrawn claims 15 and 16. No claims have been amended herein.

II. Interview Summary

Applicants thank the Examiner for his time on December 13, 2011, to discuss this application with Applicants' undersigned representative. During the December 13, 2011, interview, the undersigned and the Examiner discussed the outstanding double patenting rejection in this case. In addition, the undersigned and the Examiner discussed the possibility of rejoining withdrawn method claims 14-16. The Examiner stated that method claim 14 would be rejoined if a Terminal Disclaimer is filed over the outstanding double patenting rejection in this case.

III. Rejoinder of Claim 14

Further to the December 13, 2011, interview with the Examiner discussed above, Applicants respectfully request that the Office rejoin method claim 14 once the remaining pending claims are found allowable. Applicants have cancelled herein withdrawn method claims 15-16.

IV. Double Patenting Rejection

The Office maintains the rejection of claims 11-13 and 17-19 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 7,919,532. See Oct. 5, 2011, Office Action at 2-6.

While Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons of record, solely in an effort to advance prosecution, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate this rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference could be useful in resolving any outstanding issues, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned counsel at (703) 776-9703.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-5410.

Respectfully submitted,

J.A. LINDEMAN & CO. PLLC

Date: January 5, 2012

By: Aaron M. Raphael, Reg. No. 47,885/
Aaron M. Raphael
Reg. No. 47,885

J.A. LINDEMAN & CO. PLLC
3190 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 480
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 776-9700